GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1229
ANSWERED ON:30.11.2005
VULGAR SMS MESSAGES
Masood Shri Rasheed

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether some cases of sending vulgar SMS have come to the notice of the Government;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the measures being taken to check recurrence of such incidents;

(d) whether the Government proposes to ban mobile phones equipped with camera facility;

(e) if so, the time by which the ban is likely to be imposed; and

(f) if not, the reasons therefor?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (DR. SHAKEEL AHMAD)

(a) to (c) Some cases of sending vulgar SMS have come to the notice of the Government through media reports. Offences such as misuse of any communication equipment for transmission of message like vulgar SMS are covered under the existing laws of the land.

(d) to (f) Integration of various devices in one device is an advantage provided by the advancement of technology by way of convergence of communication, computers and content. Camera mobile phone is one of such device. Use of camera mobile phone for taking pictures is similar to using any other miniature camera attached with other device such as camera in-built in a pen, camera in-built in a cigarette lighter etc. Therefore use of camera mobile phone solely depends on the user and offences such as taking illegal photography using camera mobile phone are covered under the existing laws of the land.